

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. - 7. (Withdrawn).

8. (Currently Amended) A molten metal pump including a superstructure and a plurality of support posts for supporting the superstructure, each of the support posts having a substantially similar height;

wherein each support post comprises a top surface, and the superstructure is supported at least in part by the top surface of each support post.

9. (Original) The molten metal pump of claim 8 wherein each of the support posts has a height H plus or minus 0.010".

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Original) The molten metal pump of claim 8 wherein none of the support posts includes a through bolt hole.

12. (Original) The molten metal pump of claim 8 wherein one or more of the support posts includes a through bolt hole.

13. (Previously Presented) The molten metal pump of claim 8 wherein each of the support posts has a through bolt hole, wherein a bolt is received in each of the through bolt holes.

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Previously Presented) The molten metal pump of claim 13 wherein each through bolt hole has a diameter of {fraction (1/32)}" or more greater than the diameter of the bolt received therein

16. (Original) The molten metal pump of claim 8 wherein the pump includes a pump base having a discharge and a gas-transfer conduit attached to the discharge.

17. (Original) The molten metal pump of claim 8 wherein the pump includes a pump base having a discharge, a metal-transfer conduit attached to the discharge and a gas-transfer conduit attached to the metal-transfer conduit.

18. (Original) The molten metal pump of claim 15 that is a transfer pump, that includes a pump base having a discharge and that includes a metal-transfer conduit attached to the discharge.

19. - 25. (Withdrawn).